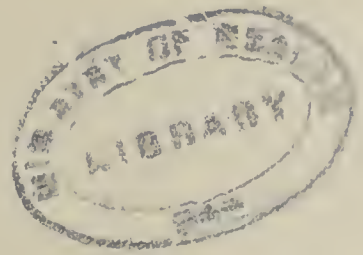


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The Rural District Council

of Lothingland.

Annual Report

on the

Health of the Rural District

of Lothingland.

for the year

1947.

by:- Alan A. Gilmour
M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1947.

The nature of all such reports must needs be of a highly statistical nature, irksome to compile and doubtless for many, more irksome to read and comprehend. Be that as it may, such statistics have indeed a very definite value, allowing of comparison with previous years. From such comparison, sometimes pleasant, sometimes not, we as a department whose aim it is to aid the health and welfare of our immediate community and thereby the community at large, should be in a position to assess our progress, retrogressive, static, or one of continued advancement?

From the contents of the present report I feel that the last state is the one which, in some measure can justifiably be claimed for the year 1947.

Comments on Statistics in General.

1. It is gratifying to record a very marked decrease in the Infantile Mortality Rate, a decrease of from 39.21 in 1946 to 17.7 in the present year. As far as can be ascertained this is the lowest figure for the Infantile Mortality Rate ever recorded in the Lothingland area. It is to be hoped that it may be maintained and improved upon.

2. The Maternal Mortality Rate having fallen from 3.9 to 0.0 can not be improved on, but will satisfy by remaining in statu quo.

3. The birth rate, in keeping with many other areas in the post war years, continues to rise.

4. There is little change in the death rate, from that of the previous year.

5. The tuberculosis death rate remains the same as in 1946, while the cancer death rate has fallen slightly.

6. The population is estimated to have risen by approximately 250.

General Statistics:-

Area in acres (including Inland Waters).....	44,653.
Registrar General's estimate of population (Mid 1947)	14,330.
Number of Inhabited Houses	4,647.
Rateable Value	£59,691.
Penny Rate	£232.

Vital Statistics:-

Births:-

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate Live Births...	141	133	274.
Illegitimate Live Births.	3	5	8.
Total Live Births.....	144.	138.	282.

Birth Rate:- per 1,000 resident population
: 19.68.

Stillbirths:-

<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
3	7	10.

Rate per 1,000 resident population
: 0.69.

(England and Wales 0.50.)

Maternal Mortality:-

Nil.

Infantile Mortality:-

Deaths of infants under one year of age.

Legitimate Males: 0 Females: 5 Total: 5

Illegitimate Males: 0 Females: 0 Total: 0

This gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of
17.7 per 1,000 live births.

Deaths:-

<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
184	96	88

Death Rate:- per 1,000 estimated population
: 12.84.

<u>Causes of Death:-</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Heart disease.....	33	29	62.
Intracranial Vascular Lesions.....	12	12	24.
Cancer.....	10	10	20.
Nephritis	7	4	11.
Bronchitis	4	4	8.
Violent causes	3	5	8.
Pneumonia	3	4	7.
Diseases of Digestive System	4	3	7.
Diseases of Circulatory System	3	3	6.
Con. Malformation and Birth Injuries	-	5	5.
T.B. of Respiratory System	3	1	4.
Diabetes	1	1	2.
Suicide	1	1	2.
Non.Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	1	1.
Influenza	1	-	1.
Prematurity	-	1	1.
All other causes	11	4	15.
	<hr/> 96	<hr/> 88	<hr/> 184.

Comparative Table for the Past Five Years.

	43.	44.	45.	46.	47	E & W 1947.	London 1947.
Population	-	13,460	13,270	14,080	14,330	-	-
Births	-	268	236	255	282	-	-
Birth rate per 1,000	20.0	19.9	17.78	18.11	19.68	20.5	22.7
Deaths	-	177	160	176	184		
Death rate per 1,000	13.16	13.15	12.06	12.5	12.84	12.0	12.8
Infant deaths	-	6	8	10	5		
Infantile Mortality Rate	33.09	22.39	33.9	39.21	17.7	41.	37.
Maternal Mortality Rate	0.0	0.0	4.1	3.9	0.0		
Tuberculosis Death Rate	-	0.22	0.30	0.35	0.35	-	-
Cancer Death Rate	-	2.08	2.49	1.85	1.39	-	-

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Two Child Welfare Clinics are now conducted within the area.

The Clinics are in operation on alternate Wednesday afternoons from 2.00p.m. to 4.30p.m.

The remarks which were made in my last report still pertain to the inadequacy of the premises, and general lack of all facilities for the conduct of an efficient child welfare clinic.

The primary objective of all clinic work is preventive, limited to education of the mothers - sometimes a difficult task, consultation and diagnosis.

Health Propaganda:-

Leaflets issued by the Central Council of Health Education dealing with the simple aspects of hygiene, positive health, common infectious diseases and minor ailments were distributed to those attending the clinics.

Voluntary Workers:-

During the year the clinics were fortunate in obtaining the services of several ladies who willingly gave of their services as voluntary workers.

Without such generous help, the clinics would undoubtedly lose much of their value.

To all these ladies we tender our sincere thanks, and appreciation of a job well done.

Kessingland Clinic.

During the year the clinic was open on 25 occasions, a doctor being present at 22 sessions.

Numbers attending:-

Under 1yr.	No. of 1st attendances	34.
	No of subsequent attendances	237.
1-5 yrs.	No. of 1st attendances	6.
	No. of subsequent attendances	152.
	Total No. of attendances	429.
	No. of children immunised	33.
	Average weekly attendance	17.1
		(1946 : 16.3).

Carlton Colville Clinic:

The clinic was open on 25 occasions, a doctor being present at 22 sessions.

Number attending:-

Under 1 year:-

No. of 1st attendances 29
No. of subsequent attendances . 205

1 - 5 years:-

No. of 1st attendances 13
No. of subsequent attendances . 199

Total No. of attendances 446

No. of children immunised 20.

Average weekly attendance 18.

(1946 : 21.4)

The extremely severe weather conditions experienced during the first quarter of the year, had, as was to be expected an adverse effect on the attendances, as also had the prolonged outbreak of measles which persisted during the first six months of the year. Despite such disappointing but unavoidable set-backs, the figures for the year compare favourably with those of the previous year.

It is gratifying to note an increase of attendances made by children of under one year of age. This is the age group that we particularly wish to attract to the clinics, as the mother who commences to bring her child as a baby, is the more likely to continue attending until school age is reached, and routine school medical inspection can take the place of periodic examination at the infant welfare clinic.

Infectious Diseases:-

Measles:-

The area experienced a moderately sharp outbreak of measles during the course of the year. This outbreak was unfortunately one of prolonged duration, extending over the first three quarters of the year.

Although all parishes were affected, the intensity of the infection was greatest in those situated to the south.

In all 264 cases were notified, this being the greatest number since 1941.

1947	.....	264.
1946	.....	46.
1945	.....	52.
1944	.....	81.
1943	.....	238.
1942	.....	24.
1941	.....	267.
1940	.....	4.

Diphtheria:-

It is worthy to note that not one single case of diphtheria was notified during the course of the year.

Cases notified and confirmed:-

1947	...	0.
1946	...	3
1945	...	2
1944	...	2

Anterior Poliomyelitis:-

During the wide spread epidemic which attacked the whole county during the summer and autumn months of 1947, eleven cases were notified within the Lothingland area. This diagnosis was only confirmed in four instances.

Treatment was provided at Ipswich Isolation Hospital, with subsequent treatment, when such was deemed necessary, at White Lodge Hospital, Newmarket.

Total number of Infectious Diseases notified:-

During the year ending 31st December 1947, 315 cases were notified (1946 : 157)

The following table shows the incidence of the various diseases notified during the four quarters of the year.

Confirmed Notification by Quarters:-

Disease.	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth. Quarter	Total.
Measles	49	109	106	-	264
Whooping Cough	13	10	-	-	23
Pneumonia	8	2	-	1	11
Scarlet Fever	-	2	1	1	4
Erysipelas	1	1	-	1	3
Ophthalmia Neo	1	-	-	-	1
Malaria	1	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	3	-	-	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	3	1	4
Total for the Year	74	127	110	4	315.

The following table shows in detail the distribution in domicile of the various infectious disease cases notified:-

Parish.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Malaria	Food Poisoning	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Total.
Reydon	93	1	8	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	105
Kessingland	60	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	62
Carlton	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	45
Wangford	27	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	32
Frostenden	8	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Wrentham	5	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	9
Oulton	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Blundeston	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Corton	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	5
Gisleham	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Hopton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
Henstead	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Mutford	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Covehithe	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
South Cove	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Uggeshall	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Benacre	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Barnby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rushmere	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lound	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Hulver	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Flixton	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	264	23	11	4	3	1	1	1	3	4	315.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

Such cases as required isolation treatment are cared for at Lowestoft Isolation Hospital in return for a payment of a proportion of their annual charges.

Cases of infectious disease are removed to hospital by the Lowestoft Isolation Hospital ambulance.

The following cases were admitted to Lowestoft for isolation treatment during the year 1947:

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Parish.</u>
Scarlet Fever	2	Reydon.
Septic Throat	2	Somerleyton.
Anterior Poliomyelitis	2	Hopton.
		(Transferred to Ipswich Isolation Hospital)

Venereal Diseases

The treatment of these diseases is carried out at the V.D. Clinic, Lowestoft and North Suffolk Hospital.

Diphtheria Immunisation:-

Immunisation against diphtheria continues to be carried out at the various schools, and at the two Child Welfare Clinics.

The following figures are supplied by the East Suffolk Public Health Department with regard to the number of children immunised within the Lothingland area.

Pre-school population (0-5)	
Mid 1947	1347.
School population (5-15)	2102.
Percentage of pre-school immunised	47.9%
Percentage all children immunised	68.6%

With regard to the pre-school figures, it must be remembered that the percentage is based on the total number of pre-school children (0-5) residing within the area, and that children are not eligible for immunisation until after they have attained nine months of age. If this fact is borne in mind it will be obvious that the percentage of pre-school children immunised in proportion to the number of children eligible for immunisation is considerably higher than the figure given; but still open to improvement.

Reinforcing or "booster" doses were given to school children at the various schools in the area.

During the year 1947, 160 "booster" doses were given.

As has been previously stated, no single case of diphtheria was notified during the course of the year.

Tuberculosis:

At the beginning of the year 1947 the following cases were on the Tuberculosis Register:-

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pulmonary	20	13	33
Non pulmonary	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>27</u>
	34	26	60.

During the year ending December 31st 1947 the following cases were either added to, or removed from the register.

Added to the Register:-

<u>Number of New Notifications</u>		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pulmonary	:	3	5	8
Non pulmonary	:	1	1	2

Number of cases restored to the register:-

Pulmonary	:	-	-	-
Non pulmonary	:	-	-	-

Number of cases added otherwise:-

Pulmonary	:	1	-	1
Non pulmonary	:	-	1	1

Total 12

Removed from the Register:-

Number of cases removed, recovered:-

		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pulmonary	:	3	3	6
Non pulmonary	:	1	5	6

Number of cases died:-

Pulmonary	:	2	1	3
Non pulmonary	:	1	1	2

Number of cases removed from the area:-

Pulmonary	:	-	1	1
Non pulmonary	:	-	2	2

Total 20

This leaves the following cases on the register at the end of the year:-

		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pulmonary	:	19	13	32
Non pulmonary	::	13	7	20

This represents a decrease of eight cases from the figures of the previous year.

During the year, 7 cases received sanatorium treatment.

As was stated in last year's report, the hospital and sanatorium accommodation for cases of tuberculosis still remains inadequate.

Waiting lists are lengthy for all available beds, and the prolonged delay at home while awaiting admission proves arduous and provoking for both patient and medical attendant.

This scarcity of available beds continues, in the major part, to be due to lack of the requisite nursing and domestic staff.

It is to be hoped that the forthcoming National Health Service Scheme may find a satisfactory solution for this pressing need.

Water Supply:-

The water supply to the area has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

There are three piped supplies in the area:-

1. Lowestoft Water Company.
2. Southwold Water Company.
3. Kessingland Water Scheme.

Recent analysis show these waters to be of good quality.

Ambulance Facilities:-

These are as before and remain adequate and satisfactory.

I have pleasure in acknowledging my indebtedness to the Sanitary Inspector and all other officials for their assistance during the past year.

Public Health Officers:-

Medical Officer of Health	:	Alan A. Gilmour. M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Sanitary Inspector	:	Mr. A.O. Adcock, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E.,

I Am,
Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
Alan A. Gilmour.

22nd June 1948.

Annual Report of the Sanitary
Inspector for the Year
1947.

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting a report upon the work of my department for the year 1947.

Housing.

Six houses have been completed during the year by private enterprise.

Post War Survey - Housing Act 1936.

The survey which was started in April 1946 , was completed in December 1947 and the total number of houses inspected amounted to 3,743 which were classified as follows:-

Category 1 : Satisfactory in all respects ..	511
Category 2 : Minor defects	855
Category 3 : Requiring repair, structural alterations or improvement	1795
Category 4 : Appropriate for reconditioning.	54
Category 5 : Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at a reasonable expense.	528.

Control of Building Licences - Regulation 56A.

During the year, building licences were issued as hereunder:-

<u>Type of Licence</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Value.</u>
Housing Repair work...	411	£39,652.10.
Building of houses by Private Enterprise ...	3	3,200. 0.
Rebuilding of War Destroyed houses	1	1,950. 0.
Other work	80	4,892. 5.
Total	495	£49,694.15s.

Building Byelaws and Town Planning.

During the year, 88 plans were submitted for consideration under the Council's Building Byelaws and the Town Planning Act, and of this number, 80 were approved as follows:-

Temporary Houses	10.
Permanent Houses	12.
Garages	14.
Store Sheds and Workshops ...	8.
Agricultural Buildings	12.
Alterations and/or Additions to Houses and/or Shops	17.
Miscellaneous Plans	7.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

There were on the registers at the end of the year 167 persons carrying on business as wholesale producers and 30 retail traders. Of these, 24 held "Tuberculin Tested" licences and 20 "Accredited" licences.

One new cowshed was erected and several premises were altered and improved during the year.

Bakehouses.

These have been inspected and all were kept in a clean condition.

Sewage Disposal.

The Council now owns a Cesspool Emptyer which is employed throughout the district and owners of property are given this service free of charge.

Collection of House Refuse.

House refuse is collected in all the parishes of the area and disposed of by a form of controlled tipping. This work is done by direct labour in the Parish of Kessingland, and elsewhere by a contractor.

Kessingland Water Supply.

The water was sufficient to meet all demands and the quarterly samples were reported satisfactory by the Public Analyst.

Meat Inspection.

Slaughtering was carried on at the Benacre slaughter-house throughout the year and 4846 carcasses were inspected, of which 52 were totally unfit for human consumption.

	<u>Cattle.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep,</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>	<u>Cows.</u>
Number killed and inspected ...	652	1594	2118	198	284

All diseases except Tuberculosis.

Whole carcasses condemned	-	5	3	6	4
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	139	14	137	2	74
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	21.3	1.2	6.5	4.0	27.4

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned	7	1	-	1	25
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	50	-	-	20	66
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.7	.15	-	10.6	35.6

The total amount of meat certified as unfit for human consumption was as follows:-

Fresh Meat 20,125 lbs.
Offal 13,950 lbs.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies
and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A.O. Adcock.

Sanitary Inspector.

